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Abstract

Wisconsin's pilot educational program to place equal emphasis on liberal arts college studies and vocational-technical training will begin with construction of Nicolet College and Technical Institute in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, in September of 1970. This school is planned to encourage the intermingling of liberal arts students with vocational-technical students since many of their courses coincide. Increased exposure to a wider range of subjects will benefit all students. The six-structure complex of Nicolet is planned to include a science center, campus center, learning resource center, art-tech center, business education center, and recreational center. Many instruction areas will be separated only by movable storage units rather than fixed walls, providing greater flexibility in the utilization of space. This open concept offers side-by-side comparison of studies between liberal arts and vo-tech students. The six "chalet" style buildings located on the 280-acre wooded site will be constructed of fieldstone, rough-sawn cedar and weathered wood with wide areas of glass. (TC)

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SM-44

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wisconsin's pilot educational program to place equal emphasis on liberal arts college studies and vocational-technical training will commence with construction of Nicolet College and Technical Institute in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, in September, 1970, it was announced by Dr. Richard J. Brown, Director.

Guided by an educational philosophy and aesthetics as well as economy, architects Schutte-Mochon, Inc., A.I.A., Milwaukee, have designed a Master Plan to include six chalet-styled learning centers on a 280-acre campus situated in the scenically inspiring resort country near Rhinelander.

The magnificent natural beauty of the wooded locale on the shores of Lake Julia will be enhanced by the residential character of the buildings, designed to harmonize with the environment, constructed of fieldstone, rough-sawn cedar and glass. Sloping shingled roofs will top the basically two-level structures, the lower level extending from surface to underground area of existing slopes for economy and preservation of natural landscape. A third top level, actually a future student lounge which will serve originally as faculty headquarters is reached by staircase from the second floor. Both first and second floors have outdoor access from ground level, the latter being entered at the peak of the slope.

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Glass walls and wide balconies with weathered wood railings featured in each planned unit will afford full enjoyment of the scenic panorama. Woodburning fireplaces, carpeting and air conditioning will further emphasize the residential quality of the buildings.

Nicolet College and Technical Institute is planned to encourage intermingling of liberal arts students with vocational-technical students since many of their courses coincide. Increased exposure to a wider range of subjects will benefit all students and give those who are undecided an insight into other fields before total commitment to a future career. In the learning centers, most walls have been eliminated to afford free observation of neighboring classes without sound or sight conflict.

Unusual juxtaposition of groups will bring such diversified classes as art and shop into the same center. Here budding artists may use machinery for welding wood or metal sculpture, while shop trainees will have easy access to drawing boards and drafting materials. In like manner, design students will work with sewing students, each deriving help and inspiration from the other and possibly enlarging their career possibilities by a knowledge of allied skills.

Both vocational and liberal arts students will be awarded two-year associate degrees which they may apply toward further college education. In addition to conventional vocational skills, those students will be eligible for future training in skills highly marketable in the Wisconsin area, such as forestry technology, outboard motor maintenance, ski instruction, snowmobile expertise or motel management.

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The six-structure complex of Nicolet is planned to include a Science Center, Campus Center, Learning Resource Center, Art-Tech Center, Business Education Center and Recreational Center. To emphasize integration of liberal arts and vo-tech students, everyone will be scheduled to participate in activities in each building. Connected by pathways through the woods, each building will be self-contained with its own heating and washroom facilities. Interiors will be air-conditioned throughout with acoustical tile ceilings and carpeting to minimize noise.

Following an "open" design concept, many instruction areas will be separated only by moveable storage units rather than fixed walls, providing greater flexibility in the utilization of space, an important economy factor for present and future curricula. In severe weather, jeeps will plow connecting walkways between the buildings.

Phase I of the Master Plan, which will eventually accommodate 800 students, will be the construction of the Science Center, which, until other units are completed, will serve all classes. Science equipment will be situated in the lower level where hillside underground windowless walls make permanent installation of large-scale equipment feasible and economical. As the other centers are built, the Science Center will be relieved of successive classes until it is serving only the science curriculum.

Specialists in the field of vo-tech school planning, architects Schutte - Mochon, Inc., A.I.A., have drawn on experience in the field to determine innovations which will enhance the learning of occupational

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skills as well as provide the finest educational facilities for vocational and liberal arts students at Nicolet, a campus planned to be a source of pride to both students and faculty. It is expected that ground will be broken for Phase I in July of 1969.

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Project Cost - Phase I: $900,000

Square Footage - Phase I: 40,000 square feet (A.I.A. method of computation)

SECTION THROUGH SCIENCE CENTER

NICOLET COLLEGE & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

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The interiors of Nicolet Community College and Technical Institute's six centers will reflect the innovations of Schutte - Mochon, Inc., A.I.A., architects who designed the master plan of the 280-acre campus. Moveable storage units, custom-designed, will replace permanent walls between classes, permitting full flexibility of future arrangement to accommodate curriculum changes. This open concept also offers side-by-side comparison of studies between liberal arts and vo-tech students, who will be deliberately exposed to related skills in other curricula. Art and sculpture students will be situated next to metal workshop students, with cross-currents of interest predicted. To assure pride in the campus, architects related "chalet" style to the northern Wisconsin landscape, utilizing fieldstone for large fireplaces, pillars and staircase bases. Rough-sawn cedar will be used for sloped roofs; weathered wood balconies and wide glass windows and doors insure full appreciation of natural beauty of the area. Groundbreaking for the project is expected to commence in July of 1969.

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NICOLET COLLEGE & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

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On the shores of Lake Julia near Rhinelander, Wisconsin, the first "chalet" Learning Center of the projected Nicolet College and Technical Institute will initiate the state's pilot program for combining liberal arts and occupational studies in one school. The first of six centers to be built to accommodate an estimated 800 future students, the Science Center illustrates the architectural master planning by Schutte - Mochon, A.I.A. to adapt style to surroundings without disturbing the natural landscape. The lower level, which will be devoted to permanent installation of laboratory equipment, takes full advantage of economical underground space offered by slope and of the resultant unbroken wall space afforded large scale equipment. Students may enter the second floor directly from peak of the slope. Fieldstone, rough-sawn cedar, weathered wood balconies add to the handsome "resort" appearance of the new school, which will connect "chalets" by walkways for foot traffic, underground cable for instant TV communications.

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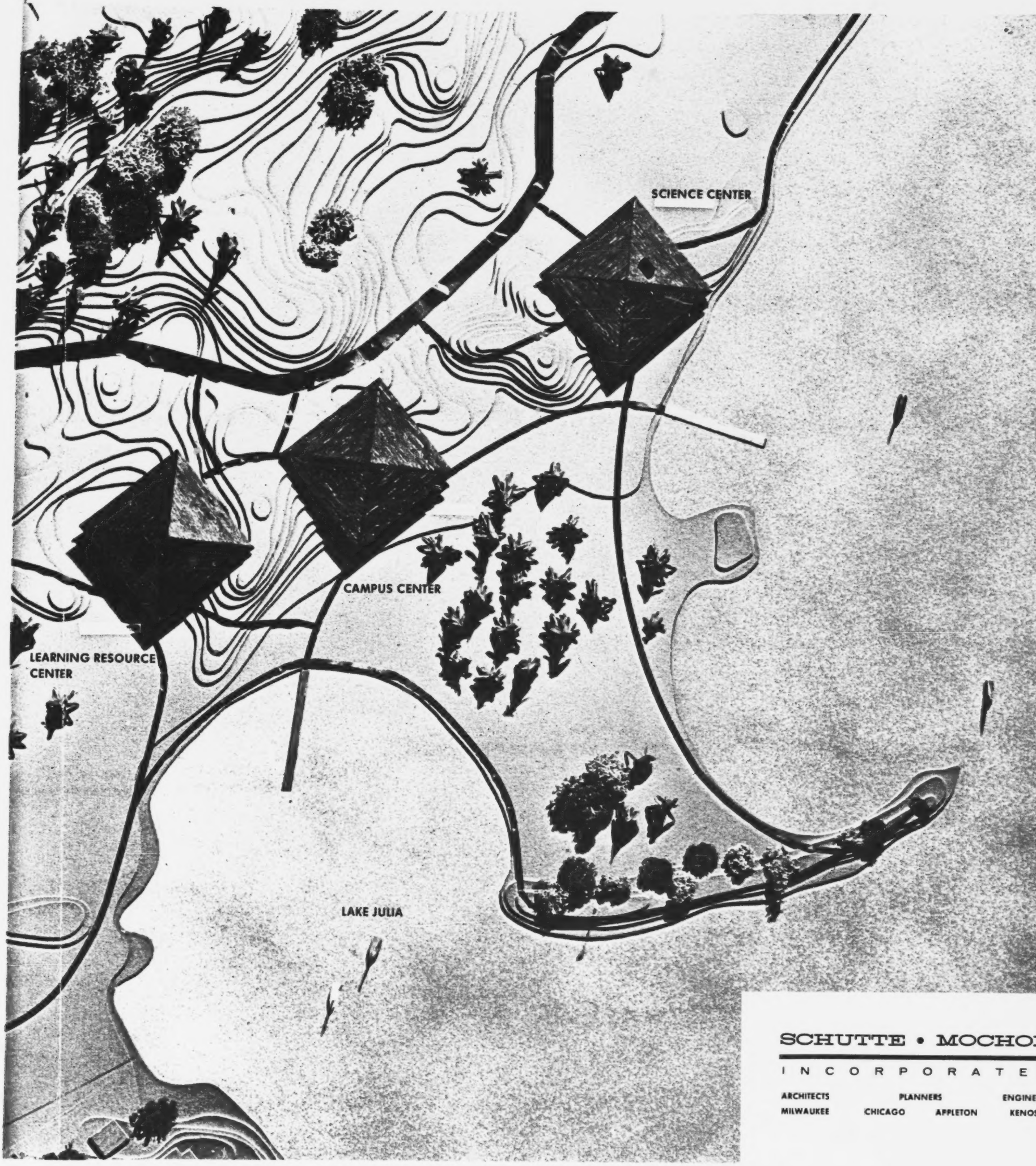
NICOLET COLLEGE AND TECHNICA



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